

# On Janus' Day

## *for a painter*

On Janus' day you should receive  
Sweetmeats and copper coins — he's  
Surely your patron, patron of  
All beginnings, doors, gates, gateways —  
Janus' day, the year's beginning, the  
Take-off for fresh inventions. There's  
So much rubbish we have to keep  
Walking away from, so much  
Orderly rubbish not worth the time  
Taken to raid it. But, open the gate  
To make again for the wilderness —  
The guard seizes you, the city fathers  
Meet in council, and all the news-sheets  
Cry criminal and submit you to  
A long degrading trial. Can they think  
You are taking valuables of theirs with you?  
Though it was never mentioned, your  
Crime was to leave the gate open — who  
Knows what monsters might wander in,  
Abnormally tall, twin-faced, or  
Tar-stained, unrecognizable, a saviour?

**Benet Weatherhead**

## **Prepapal Influences on John Paul II's Thought**

**John M. Grondelski**

Any attempt to understand the various influences which have shaped the thinking of Pope John Paul II on the fiftieth anniversary of his priestly ordination must reckon with the 32 years of Karol Wojtyla's priesthood prior to his papal election in 1978. Indeed, in total honesty, one must also